

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-9 are pending in the application. Claims 1-3, 5 and 6 are rejected.

Claims 7-9 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the Examiner's suggestion in order to clarify the claimed subject matter.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC 112 second paragraph as being indefinite. As the claim was clarified according to the Examiner's suggested claim language it is respectfully requested the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejection Under 35 USC 103

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Tanabe et al (Tanabe) in view of Hsu (US 6, 363,319).

On page 4 of the office action, it appears the method and apparatus in Hsu is being equated to selecting routes in a communication network where only routes with sufficient bandwidth are considered and further, the line speed in applicants claims is being equated with the bandwidth requirement in Hsu..

However applicant's claimed invention includes a routing apparatus having a main controller, a line interface and a switch characterized in that the main controller includes routing data generators, each associated with a line speed for generating routing data conforming to requested destination addresses.

The line interface requests the main controller be notified of routing data by generating routing-data requests that include the address of a packet which arrives from a line and an identifier of the line.

The main controller responds to the request by generating routing data from whichever routing data generator corresponds to a line speed indicated by the line identifier and sending this routing data to the line interface.

It is respectfully submitted that Hsu is only considering links with sufficient bandwidth which is different from applicants claimed generating routing data from whichever routing data generator corresponds to a line speed indicated by the line identifier. Hsu col. 3, line 20-24 is different from the claimed invention, Hsu relates to a flow route selection method and apparatus for selecting a flow route from among a plurality of network paths that connect a source to a destination in MPLS as does not suggest the above features.

Tanabe likewise fails to describe routing data generators, each associated with a line speed for generating routing data conforming to requested destination addresses and the line interface requests the main controller be notified of routing data by generating routing-data requests that include the address of a packet which arrives from a line and an identifier of the line and the main controller responding to the request by generating routing data from whichever routing data generator corresponds to a line speed indicated by the line identifier and sending this routing data to the line interface

Also applicant's routing data generator has a correspondence to a line speed and the routing data is generated by this correspondence. In contrast there is no correspondence described in Hsu. Hsu only describes a consideration of links with sufficient bandwidth. There is no description or correspondence between the routing data generator and a line speed indicated by a line identifier.

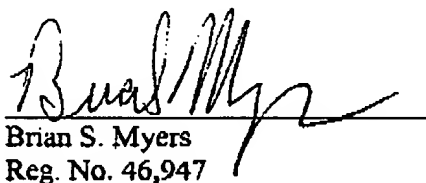
For at least the foregoing reasons it is respectfully submitted the combination of references fails to teach or suggest the features of claim 1 and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 3, 5 and 6 depend from claim 1 and should likewise be allowed since they include the above features and additional distinguishing features.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,


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